



# 16

Atty. Docket: 70015060.0002

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of: ) Group Art: 1756  
Inventor: BECKI SPEAKMAN ) Examiner: Mohamedulla  
Serial No.: 09/549,445 )  
Filed: April 14, 2000 )  
Title: MASKING APPARATUS AND METHOD )

Am dt  
D entined  
4/2/04

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 and mailed on the below date of mailing.

Connie A. Mills Oct. 31, 2003  
Connie A. Mills: Date of Signature and Mailing

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir or Madam:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed July 25, 2003, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the accompanying Request for Continued Examination and the following Amendment.

**A. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 112.**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 6 (and dependant claims 2-5 and 7-9) because, according to the Examiner, the limitation "regardless of the length of such working surface" is new matter not supported by the original disclosure. Applicant respectfully traverses the

**RECEIVED**